

SOUTHWOLD MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 1159790

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2015-01-06

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Southwold Museum
9-11 Victoria Street
Southwold
IP18 6HZ

Phone 01502 725600

Email curator@southwoldmuseum.org

Website southwoldmuseum.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY ARE:3.1 TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN LOCAL HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SOUTHWOLD AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD, IN PARTICULAR BY PROVIDING LECTURES, EDUCATIONAL TRIPS AND BY PROMOTING RESEARCH IN THE FIELDS DESCRIBED AND TO PUBLISH THE USEFUL RESULTS OF SUCH RESEARCH.3.2 THE PROVISION, MAINTENANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OF A MUSEUM (HEREINAFTER "THE MUSEUM") IN BUILDINGS LOCATED ON A SITE AT 9 -11 VICTORIA STREET, SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK IP18 6HZ FOR THE RECEPTION AND DISPLAY OF OBJECTS OF ANTIQUITY, CURIOSITY, RARITY OR LOCAL INTEREST.

Activities: TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN LOCAL HISTORYTHE PROVISION, MAINTENANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OF A MUSEUM IN BUILDINGS LOCATED ON A SITE AT 9 -11 VICTORIA STREET, SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK IP18 6HZ FOR THE RECEPTION AND DISPLAY OF OBJECTS OF ANTIQUITY, CURIOSITY, RARITY OR LOCAL INTEREST.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£107,063	£103,565	-	-
2024-12-31	£286,000	£284,858	-	-
2023-12-31	£14,195	£13,471	-	-
2022-12-31	£18,064	£15,843	-	-
2021-12-31	£10,655	£9,331	-	-
2020-12-31	£15,163	£16,845	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
John Richard Nickell-Lean TD	Chair	2024-04-17
Andrew Wallington-Smith		2022-06-20
Barbara Badrick		2025-04-09
Catherine Elizabeth Fox		2026-04-15
Catherine Mary Schling		2025-04-09
David Euan Murdoch		2026-04-15
Josephine Diana Flunder		2018-08-01
Miriam Wells		2026-04-15
Professor Lawrence Neil Goldman		2024-04-17
Richard Mallett		2025-04-09
STEPHEN WELLS		2026-04-15
Simon Piers Loftus		2026-04-15

SOUTHWOLD MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1159790

Accounts



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

Trustees Report April 2026

Looking back over the last year it is pleasing to report that our museum and society is in good shape both financially and in operational terms and the museum continues to have outstandingly good commendations in our Visitors' Book which is an important reality check.

Whilst all this is said we have been told that we must now replace the roof on the museum. As ever, one of those very expensive yet essential repairs that leaves one feeling no better for having done it.

Before reviewing our financial matters, I wanted to mention our re-accreditation which has been one of the more thankless tasks and challenges for us since my report to you last year. This work has been undertaken principally by Barbara, aided by Jo and Stephen, all of whom I would like thank on our behalf.

Not surprisingly the documentation necessary for this has grown exponentially since our last submission approaching 50% larger. Confirmation that we had been successful in the application came through at the end of February with the next requirement in 2031.

It is clear that having only one single accreditation program for all museums in the country, regardless of their size, is not fit for purpose. This has been acknowledged by the Arts Council and we understand that a reduced requirement for small museums will be introduced in time for our next submission in 2031.

I can also report that Stephen Wells and Cath Fox wish, with your support, to be re-elected once again as Trustees having spent the last year in purdah and we have three further new trustees in waiting, Miriam Wells, Euan Murdoch and Simon Loftus. Simon was President of the Society to the end of February 2017 and will need no introduction to you. Their addition will take us to our maximum number of 12 Trustees.

The importance of bringing new members to the Society, some as Trustees, is not to be underestimated. All of us are in effect holding our various positions in the Society whilst having an eye for the next generation to take over from us.

And now our financial position.

As Andrew will explain we now have a total of unrestricted funds of £380,000 which has been invested in two COIF funds. These are among the safest we can find, with the highest level of security and a good return. As a direct result of the situation in the Middle East, the financial situation is very fluid now and the Finance Committee met on Thursday 5th March to review our situation. We agreed that no change was needed at the present time.

Making some use of our new financial position we have replaced our IT system and back-ups, these changes have been long overdue as previously we simply could not afford to do so.

Our visitor numbers were up again by 4% on the previous year which is pleasing but reflects a similar figure for visitors to Southwold as a whole. Yet I believe we remain some way below what we should be able to achieve. We need a higher profile and to that end a number of new initiatives are being tried, one of which is inviting all the Councillors to the museum.

Bearing in mind that we are living in dangerous times I felt that it would be worthwhile for us to look back at some of the threats that forebears on our coast have had to deal with over the last 400 years. This in the hope that it may give some understanding to the threats facing us today. Deep civil unrest, religious factions, civil war, invasion (which of course did happen on 5th Nov 1688 in Torbay) plague (the last in 1918) Napoleonic and World Wars, then a very long period of peace. Peace for 81 years under the umbrella of NATO which is now being threatened with break-up.

The series of Winter Lectures organised by Lawrence Goldman has been a great success culminating with 'The Story of Southwold Hospital' given by Jessica de Grazia on 21 April which we look forward to greatly. However, Professor Alexander Morrison's lecture on 'Putin and Ukraine', which was fascinating brought 103 people to the Millennium Hall, something of a record for us.

If there is one area where we could do with your support it is in our Society membership which is falling back slightly.

Finally Pam Hallworth one of our trustees has let me know that she will stand down as a trustee at our AGM and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her most sincerely for her great support for the museum and Society over many years and especially in her work with schools and children. This is a area where she has confirmed that she would like to continue to be involved.

Dates for your Diary

Battle of Sole Bay Dinner 12th June 2026

Showing of 'The Admiral' Electric Picture Palace 18th June 2026 7pm

John Nickell-Lean
March 2026



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

STATEMENT OF ASSETS 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Brought forward Balances at 1st January 2025		
Unrestricted Funds		
SM&HS Current Account	5,864	4,927
COIF Deposit Fund	217,107	18,795
COIF Investment Fund	73,009	22,428
COIF Short Duration Bond Fund	7,305	7,088
Total Brought Forward	303,285	53,238
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	3,498	1,142
Monies Transferred from/to Bank to/from Deposit Fund	77,000	246,000
COIF Deposit Fund Interest	10,538	1,800
COIF Investment Fund Income	-	466
Unrealised COIF Investment Fund gains/losses	(4,431)	580
Unrealised COIF Short Duration Bond Fund gains/losses	29	217
TOTAL FUNDS	389,980	303,489
Represented by Balances at 31st December 2025		
Unrestricted Funds		
SM&HS Current Account	9,505	5,864
COIF Deposit Fund	277,706	217,107
COIF Investment Fund	102,912	73,009
COIF Short Duration Bond Fund	0	7,305
Total Brought Forward	390,123	303,285
Current Account 2025 Prepayments & Accruals (Note 1)	(143)	204
TOTAL FUNDS	389,980	303,489

Note 1: Prepayments & Accruals

Add 2025 subs income prepaid in 2024	0	Add 2024 subs income prepaid in 2023	0
Less 2025 debts paid in 2026	(50)	Less 2024 debts paid in 2025	(66)
Add 2024 accrued debts paid in 2025	66	Add 2023 accrued debts paid in 2024	171
Add 2025 income paid in 2026	0	Add 2024 income paid in 2025	159
Less 2024 income paid in 2025	(159)	Less 2023 income paid in 2024	(60)
	(143)		204

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2025

RECEIPTS	Unrestricted Funds	2025	2024
Subscriptions	Note 2	2,016	2,640
Donations	Note 3	6,677	6,173
Grants & Legacies	Note 4	86,230	263,750
Sales		3,161	2,006
Lecture Income	Note 5	1,420	1,696
Interest Received from Investment Fund		2,498	296
Events Income	Note 6	2,867	3,762
Gift Aid	Note 7	2,194	1,677
Transfer from Deposit Fund		0	4,000
Total Receipts		107,063	286,000
PAYMENTS	Unrestricted Funds		
Insurance		1,691	1,820
Utilities		2,676	2,311
Cost of online income	Note 8	616	509
Repairs & Maintenance		8,135	21,760
Printing & Clerical Services		1,682	630
IT & Equipment		3,553	313
Subscriptions to Allied Organisations		126	226
Cost of Museum Artefacts Collection		2,357	787
Purchase of Merchandise		1,682	1,502
Exhibitions		157	10
Cost of Lectures	Note 5	770	694
Cost of Events	Note 6	3,120	4,296
Local Rates		0	0
Transfer to Deposit Fund		77,000	250,000
Total Payments		103,565	284,858
Surplus/ Deficit		3,498	1,142

Note 2 Subscriptions:

2025: 135 Ordinary memberships; 74 Life memberships; 0 Corporate membership

2024: 146 Ordinary memberships; 83 Life memberships; 0 Corporate membership

Note 3 Donations:

2025: All Visitors 4,847 = £1.88 per adult

2024: All Visitors 4,619 = £1.97 per adult

Note 4 Grants & Bequests:

2025: £76,036 Janet Marjorie FOSTER; £9,994 Fran D'ALCORN; £200 Patricia ELVIN

2024: £250 Rotary Club; £13,500 Southwold Trust for building repair; £250,000 bequest from Janet Marjorie FOSTER

Note 5 Lectures:

2025: 6 lectures, 260 attendees *surplus £248*

2024: 7 lectures, 311 attendees *surplus £1,003*

Note 6 Events:

2025: AGM Dinner *surplus £46*; Solebay Dinner *surplus £129*; Ipswich trip *loss £8*

2024: AGM Dinner *surplus £59*; Solebay Dinner *loss £166*

Note 7 Gift Aid:

2025: figure is for tax year 2024-25 only

2024: figure is for tax year 2023-24 + 3 years' back claim for 9 members

Note 8 Online income:

2025: charges for Libertypay & Sumup machines represent 13% of online payments taken

2024: charges for Libertypay & Sumup machines represent 14% of online payments taken

Treasurer's Report on the 2025 Accounts

Assets

2025 saw payment of the balance of Janet Foster's bequest together with a new bequest from past Trustee Fran d'Alcorn. In addition to the monetary sum, she also bequeathed $\frac{1}{3}$ of the residue of her estate to the Museum. The value of the residue is still unknown as the solicitor is awaiting the final accounts. There was a third kind bequest from Patricia Elvin.

£77,000 was added to the investments - £50,000 to the Deposit account and £27,000 to the Investment Fund. In addition, the Short Duration Bond which had performed indifferently, was closed and the monies transferred to the Investment Fund. Since October, 2024, when the first bequest was invested these funds have generated £15,164 of income. Interest from the Deposit account is reinvested and distributions from the Investment Fund are paid into the bank account as income.

The Deposit account returned 3.99% interest, the Investment Fund 2.95% but with a capital loss of 1.52%. The Charities Official Investment Fund (COIF) explain the capital loss by underperformance of quality equities which are affected by the power of the small group of US tech stocks and the greater diversification of stock COIF must employ to reduce risk. This fund has enjoyed a 10-year run of year-on-year capital increase and COIF forecasts 3% for 2026 but the Finance Sub Committee will be looking at this closely.

In accordance with the Museum's Policy 12 (Financial Reserves) the minimum that must be maintained as a reserve for unforeseen circumstances at 1 January, 2026, is £34,978.

Income & Expenditure

Routine income has improved again with increased donations, sales, interest received and gift aid. Lectures and events have contributed also but membership and subscriptions are down.

With regard to payments, routine expenditure has been normal but several projects have been undertaken. The IT suite in the office has been upgraded, new storage space has been acquired in the Stella Peskett Hall, a new cabinet has replaced the beach hut display in the Collins Room and the oral history project has got underway. A full survey of the building has been conducted and costly repairs to lighting, full external decoration including repairs to the guttering and a start made on replacing the main door to enable better control of ambient conditions. The survey revealed the fairly urgent need for extensive work on the main roof for which planning is underway but costings are not yet known.

Finally, the accounts show a surplus of £3,498 for all the 2025 activities but if the exceptional and extraordinary items are removed from the accounts the surplus on normal operating activities is:

Surplus in the books	3,498
remove bequest income	(86,230)
add deposit a/c movements	77,000
add project expenses	9,184
add exceptional payments	2,541
Surplus on Normal Operating Activities	£5,993

Andrew Wallington-Smith
Hon Treasurer
11 March 2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

In connection with my examination of the accounts of the

Southwold Museum and Historical Society

for the year ended 31 December, 2025

no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, requirements:

to keep accounting records; or
to prepare accounts which accord with those records

have not been met; or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



V FROST FCCA, BA (Hons)
10 Shrubbery Avenue
Worcester, WR1 1QH

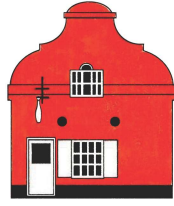
Date:

12/31/26

SOUTHWOLD MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1159790

Accounts



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

Trustees' report April 2025

It has been said “that in times of great political uncertainty and divide, of war or major financial distress, museums act as an anchor in a storm, providing an important perspective into earlier times.

For museums act as the guardians of our collective memory. They are the story tellers of human achievement as well as human catastrophe, and are a catalyst for future innovation. Their relevance and importance lies not just in the preservation of the past, but in helping to develop our understanding of the present and inspiring possibilities for tomorrow.”

This probably couldn't be more appropriate than right now when the global threats and general turmoil seem so extreme.

But whilst this is true, the last year for our Society has in many ways been an extraordinary one. It leaves the Society in a substantially better financial position than at almost any time since it was first created in 1933. This is as a result of the great generosity of Mrs. Janet Foster who has left £324,526 in her will to us. The effect of this upon our finances is outlined in our Treasurer's report and be assured that it makes a radical difference to our situation for which we are most grateful.

The museum is in very good shape and a great deal of work has taken place over the last 12 months with a broad range of repairs, renovations and upgrades taking place. Most important of these has been the strengthening of the upper wall in the museum with a latticework being installed which spreads the load of the roof more evenly and will stop the external wall from moving outwards any further. Although a complex procedure was undertaken by Cooper and Denny, it seems to have been a job well done, and as I mentioned last year, we must thank the Southwold Trust most sincerely for their generous donation towards the cost of the repair work to the museum

Pleasingly, our visitor numbers are up again in 2024 showing a more than 20% increase during a year when the footfall in Southwold fell by over 20%. Whereas we remain in great need of much better signage for the museum in Southwold, the Mayor and Town Council must be congratulated on the development of the new town website which we assume must be partly the reason for our increased visitor numbers.

I am pleased to say that we have three new Trustees who have joined us, Cathy Schling, Barbara Badrick and Dick Mallet all of whom I am sure will be known to you. Cathy is developing an oral history project to record the spoken voice here in Suffolk for the museum, and Barbara will take over as Secretary for the Society from Helen Jarvis, whom we must thank for her great work and dedication to the Society over many years alongside Rhys.

Despite having been told that re-accreditation was not going to take place before 2027, we have now received written confirmation that we must complete it by September this year. Work is now forging ahead to complete this.

The Third Battle of Sole Bay Dinner will be taking place on 7th June at the Golf Club. There will be a short speech during the dinner entitled "The outcome and aftermath of the Battle of Sole Bay".

The Journal will be produced once again this year and Dominic Knight, well known for his editorship of the Reydon Robin is now at the helm.

In the last year we have most sadly lost both David de Kretser and Barry Tolfree both of whom made great contribution to Society over many years. David as Curator from 2001 and then President from 2008 to 2011 and Barry who designed and later edited the Journal.

Finally we are starting a legacy project for the Museum which we all understand will be a very long term project but something which has become such an important mainstay for the charitable sector. I trust that you will not object to being sent a copy of the brochure for you to think about in the future.

John Nickell-Lean
April 2025



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

STATEMENT OF ASSETS 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Brought forward Balances at 1st January 2024		
Unrestricted Funds		
SM&HS Current Account	4,927	5,789
COIF Deposit Fund	18,795	16,388
COIF Investment Fund	22,428	20,512
COIF Short Duration Bond Fund	7,088	6,709
Total Brought Forward	53,238	49,398
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	1,142	(276)
Monies Transferred from/to Bank to/from Deposit Fund	246,000	1,000
COIF Deposit Fund Interest	1,800	791
COIF Investment Fund Income	466	616
Unrealised COIF Investment Fund gains/losses	580	1,916
Unrealised COIF Short Duration Bond Fund gains/losses	217	379
TOTAL FUNDS	303,489	53,824

Represented by Balances at 31st December 2024

Unrestricted Funds		
SM&HS Current Account	5,864	4,927
COIF Deposit Fund	217,107	18,795
COIF Investment Fund	73,009	22,428
COIF Short Duration Bond Fund	7,305	7,088
Total Brought Forward	303,285	53,238
Current Account 2024 Prepayments & Accruals (Note 1)	204	586
TOTAL FUNDS	303,489	53,824

Note 1: Prepayments & Accruals

Add 2024 subs income prepaid in 2023	0	Add 2023 subs income prepaid in 2022	70
Less 2024 debts paid in 2025	(66)	Less 2024 subs income prepaid in 2023	0
Add 2023 accrued debts paid in 2024	171	Add 2022 accrued debts paid in 2023	627
Add 2024 income paid in 2025	159	Add 2023 income paid in 2024	60
Less 2023 income paid in 2024	(60)	Less 2023 debts paid in 2024	(171)
	204		586

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2024

RECEIPTS	Unrestricted Funds	2024	2023
Subscriptions	Note 2	2,640	2,323
Donations	Note 3	6,173	4,948
Grants & Legacies	Note 4	263,750	1,160
Sales		2,006	1,747
Lecture Income	Note 5	1,696	1,167
Interest Received		296	162
Events Income	Note 6	3,762	1,250
Gift Aid	Note 7	1,677	1,438
Transfer from Deposit Fund		4,000	2,000
Total Receipts		286,000	16,195
PAYMENTS	Unrestricted Funds		
Insurance		1,820	1,888
Utilities		2,311	2,111
Cost of online income	Note 8	509	416
Repairs & Maintenance		21,760	1,696
Printing & Clerical Services		943	1,069
Subscriptions to Allied Organisations		226	140
Cost of Museum Artefacts Collection		787	2,029
Purchase of Merchandise		1,502	2,044
Exhibitions		10	114
Cost of Lectures	Note 5	694	405
Cost of Events	Note 6	4,296	1,542
Local Rates		0	17
Transfer to Deposit Fund		250,000	3,000
Total Payments		284,858	16,471
Surplus/Deficit		1,142	(276)

Note 2 Subscriptions:

2024: 146 Ordinary memberships; 83 Life memberships; 0 Corporate membership

2023: 134 Ordinary memberships; 90 Life memberships; 1 Corporate membership

Note 3 Donations:

2024: All Visitors 4,619 = £1.97 per adult

2023: All Visitors 3,821 = £1.29 per adult

Note 4 Grants & Bequests:

2024: £250 Rotary Club; £13,500 Southwold Trust for building repair; £250,000 bequest from Janet Marjorie FOSTER

2023: £960 from SHARE Museums East for Collections Care Audit; £200 from Assoc Suff Museums for bookbinding

Note 5 Lectures:

2024: 7 lectures, 311 attendees *surplus £1,003*

2023: 7 lectures, 230 attendees *surplus £762*

Note 6 Events:

2024: AGM Dinner *surplus £59*; Solebay Dinner *loss £166*

2023: AGM Dinner *surplus £45*; Greenwich visit *£1.25 surplus including Gift Aid*; Stewards reception *cost £82*

Note 7 Gift Aid:

2024: figure is for tax year 2023-24 + 3 years' back claim for 9 members

2023: figure is for tax year 2022-23 only

Note 8 Online income:

2024: charges for Libertypay & Sumup machines represent 14% of online payments taken

2023: charges for Libertypay & Sumup machines represent 18% of online payments taken

Treasurer's Report on the 2024 Accounts

Assets

The major news for the 2024 Accounts is the generous and absolutely unexpected bequest from Janet Foster of £324,536.17, of which an initial distribution of £250,000 has been received. This changes the Trustees hitherto excessively prudent financial outlook. £200,000 was placed in the Deposit Fund to generate interest to be used to pay for projects and £50,000 to the Investment Fund to generate income to be paid to the bank for use with general expenditure. The Investment Committee has been established to review and monitor the performance of these investments and established that the Deposit Fund returned 4.8% interest, the Investment Fund 2.6% with a capital increase of 8% and the Short Duration Bond a return of 2.3% with a capital increase of 5%. By comparison National Savings were not as good.

In accordance with the Museum's Policy 12 (Financial Reserves) the minimum that must be maintained as a reserve for unforeseen circumstances at 1 January, 2025, is £31,808.

Income & Expenditure

Routine income has improved significantly this year with more members and generous donations from Life member, more donations from increased numbers of visitors, better sales of books and higher lecture attendance. The Southwold Trust kindly agreed to fund 50% of the building works and when the final cost of the project was significantly under budget agreed to let the Museum retain the whole grant.

With regard to payments, following a review of what of the Museum's unique and therefore irreplaceable collection needed to be insured the cost was reduced slightly. The other major item of expenditure was the refurbishment work to the building at £20,998. Cooper & Denny installed a tension cable system to support the existing steel frame, carried out brickwork repairs, replaced failed timber lintels and re-installed timber collars in the roof around the Viking oars.

With the Museum's increased assets the Trustees must now work out how best to use them. It has already been established that where possible only the interest from the capital will be used. So far expenditure has been made to revive the Museum shop, albeit with a tightly controlled range of merchandise, update the office IT suite, provide equipment for the oral history project and carry out an annual comprehensive building survey. In progress are external redecorations, a new front door, the move of the stored items to a better facility in the Stella Peskett Hall and a change of displays including replacement of the photo display computer and booth.

Finally, the accounts show a surplus of £1,142 for all the 2024 activities but if the exceptional and extraordinary items are removed from the accounts the surplus on normal operating activities is:

Surplus in the books		1,142
Surplus after removing deposit a/c movements	(-4k, +250k)	247,142
Surplus after removing building works	(-13½k grant, +20,998 cost)	254,640
Surplus on Normal Operating Activities		
after removing Foster grant	(-250k)	£4,640

Andrew Wallington-Smith
Hon Treasurer
9 April 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

In connection with my examination of the accounts of the

Southwold Museum and Historical Society

for the year ended 31 December, 2024

no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, requirements:

to keep accounting records; or

to prepare accounts which accord with those records

have not been met; or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



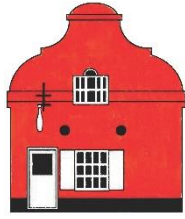
V FROST FCCA, BA (Hons)
51, Runway Road,
Plymouth,
Devon PL6 8DT

Date: 26/3/25

SOUTHWOLD MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1159790

Accounts



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

Trustees report for Wednesday 17th April 2024

The last year has been a busy year for the Museum and Historical Society and for us the Trustees and we are glad to report that our Society remains in steady good health financially and in reasonable health in general terms. You will know that we are dealing with an issue of old age as far as the Museum building is concerned the maintenance of which continues to be expensive.

Our visitor numbers have grown well in the last 12 months up ten percent on last year, but we believe that we can improve upon this further in the future. We are working on extending the number of hours that the museum opens from 2 to 4 o'clock daily, to 12 to 4 o'clock. This will have the obvious impact of offering much greater availability to the public, but at the same time it will require two stewards for each day. Luckily we are having some good success in recruiting new volunteers and a meeting has been booked at Southwold Golf Club on Wednesday 27th March at 3.00 pm to bring the stewards, new and old, together and up to date. If you would like to join us and help, then could you please make contact with our Curator Jo whose contact details are curator@southwoldmuseum.org

You will see the financial position in the Treasurer's comments and not surprisingly 2023 looks in somewhat better shape than 2022. It is worth saying that our robustness is in large part as a result of being entirely independent and receiving no funding from local or national Government. Furthermore we are all volunteers, but the issue of finding our own replacements never goes away and we continue to seek new Trustees to join us and especially in the area of Social Media and Marketing.

Although donations were up for the year the deposit fund will bear the weight of the cost of repairs for the building work, albeit that some of the cost has been offset by a most generous donation made by the Southwold Trust. Their continuing support for the Museum is deeply appreciated. We seek other ways to defray these costs.

The Society had a fascinating visit to Greenwich in October to see Inigo Jones' architectural masterpiece, the Queen's House, and a private showing given by Eri Heilijgers of the paintings by Van de Velde the Younger in particular of the Burning of the Royal James at the Battle of Sole Bay 1672. This being framed by one of the majestic Sole Bay Tapestries which has been magnificently restored. This is one of the six tapestries commissioned by King Charles II at the time to record the battles (a little surprising as it would seem that the Dutch won 2-1, but one assumes that he was told otherwise). It was a most memorable visit.

Our lectures have been well attended throughout the winter and our most recent held at the Stella Peskett Hall on 5th March was our best attended. Cathy Schling talked about Tom King's

WW11 Southwold diaries. Our final lecture for the season will be held on 16th April with Professor Stephen Gunn speaking about Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk during Henry VIII's reign.

A Strategy meeting has been set aside on 27th March to discuss and debate the Museum's forward plan for the next 5 years. With a keen desire to increase the number of members we will look at our ability to develop the museum further, its activities and its finances which are somewhat hindered by our lack of space. This of course does add to its charm as the museum is undoubtedly a very compact, but sparkling gem. We have 3,500 objects, over 4,000 photographs, 450 prints and nearly 1500 books, only a part of which we can display at any one time.

The entire issue of Social Media, so much in public debate these days has an important place for us especially as a visitor attraction as it would not be possible for us to be better hidden away than we are in our current location. So the Mayor's robust initiative of an all encompassing website which welcomes visitors to Southwold should have a big impact for us and for Southwold as a whole. It will without doubt help draw visitors to us, the benefits of which we will see this time next year. However there is much more for us to do in this area.

The inaugural Battle of Sole Bay Dinner is planned to take place on the exact anniversary at the Boardwalk Restaurant, Southwold Pier, on Friday 7th June 2024 7.00 for 7.30 (although this now needs further confirmation owing to the Pier's change in ownership in past days). More details will follow but the intention is to turn this into an annual opportunity for the members of the Society to join together and enjoy each other's company. The brilliant Eri Heilijgers from the National Maritime Museum Greenwich has been invited to speak briefly. A date for your future diary, 7th June in 2025 is a Saturday.

And finally some changes. Rhys Jarvis after seven years as a Trustee, almost the entirety of which has been as President, has decided to stand down and we would like to take this opportunity of thanking him on behalf of all of us for his hard work, dedication and considerable good judgement with which he has helped steer the Society through its most difficult time since 1939-45. The museum's robustness and financial good health is in no small way due his diligence and good judgement.

Barry Tolfree, a stalwart of the Society over so many years often as an unsung hero, who has been responsible for producing our excellent Journal, has decided to step back from his editorial and software tasks in the Society. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking him on behalf of all of us for his time, effort and great ability in producing a wonderful and lasting reflection upon Southwold, its hinterland and its people. A history for us all to treasure.

Margaret Child died in October last year. Margaret had a long association with the museum. She was museum secretary for three years before being elected President from 1999 – 2002. Margaret was also a member of the Catalogue and Archive Group 2004 - 2020 until ill health forced her to retire. Margaret had been awarded the M.B.E. for her services to Relate.

John Nickell-Lean

9th March 2024



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

STATEMENT OF ASSETS 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Brought forward Balances at 1st January 2023		
Unrestricted Funds		
SM&HS Current Account	5,789	3,427
COIF Deposit Fund	16,388	8,666
COIF Investment Fund	20,512	23,210
COIF Short Duration Bond Fund	6,709	7,680
Total Brought Forward	49,398	42,983
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(276)	2,221
Monies Transferred from/to Bank to/from Deposit Fund	1,000	7,000
COIF Deposit Fund Interest	791	109
COIF Investment Fund Income	616	613
Unrealised COIF Investment Fund gains/losses	1,916	(2,698)
Unrealised COIF Short Duration Bond Fund gains/losses	379	(970)
TOTAL FUNDS	53,824	49,258

Represented by Balances at 31st December 2023

Unrestricted Funds		
SM&HS Current Account	4,927	5,789
COIF Deposit Fund	18,795	16,388
COIF Investment Fund	22,428	20,512
COIF Short Duration Bond Fund	7,088	6,709
Total Brought Forward	53,238	49,398
Current Account 2023 Prepayments & Accruals (Note 1)	586	(140)
TOTAL FUNDS	53,824	49,258

Note 1: Prepayments & Accruals

Add 2023 subs income prepaid in 2022	70	Add 2022 subs income prepaid in 2021	490
Less 2024 subs income prepaid in 2023	0	Less 2023 subs income prepaid in 2022	(70)
Add 2022 accrued debts paid in 2023	627	Add 2021 accrued debts paid in 2022	137
Add 2023 income paid in 2024	60	Less 2022 debts prepaid in 2021	(70)
Less 2023 debts paid in 2024	(171)	Less 2022 debts paid in 2023	(627)
	586		(140)

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2023

RECEIPTS	Unrestricted Funds		2023	2022
Subscriptions		Note 2	2,323	2,345
Donations		Note 3	4,948	4,357
Grants		Note 4	1,160	5,000
Sales			1,747	1,002
Lecture Income		Note 5	1,167	934
Interest Received			162	195
Events Income		Note 6	1,250	1,483
Gift Aid		Note 7	1,438	2,748
Transfer from Deposit Fund			2,000	0
Total Receipts			16,195	18,064
PAYMENTS	Unrestricted Funds			
Insurance			1,888	1,741
Utilities			2,111	2,141
Cost of online income		Note 8	416	(101)
Repairs & Maintenance			1,696	1,200
Printing & Clerical Services			1,069	932
Subscriptions to Allied Organisations			140	293
Cost of Museum Artefacts Collection			2,029	76
Purchase of Merchandise			2,044	145
Exhibitions			114	10
Cost of Lectures		Note 5	405	652
Cost of Events		Note 6	1,542	1,583
Local Rates			17	171
Transfer to Deposit Fund			3,000	7,000
Total Payments			16,471	15,843
Surplus/Deficit			(276)	2,221

Note 2 Subscriptions:

2023: 134 Ordinary memberships; 90 Life memberships; 1 Corporate membership

2022: 135 Ordinary memberships; 96 Life memberships; 1 Corporate membership

Note 3 Donations:

2023: All Visitors 3,821 = £1.29 per adult

2022: All Visitors 3,423 = £1.27 per adult

Note 4 Grants:

2023: £960 from SHARE Museums East for Collections Care Audit; £200 from Assoc Suff Museums for bookbinding

2022: bequest from Harold John Arthur TRUSSLER

Note 5 Lectures:

2023: 7 lectures *surplus £762*

2022: 6 lectures *surplus £282*

Note 6 Events:

2023: AGM Dinner *surplus £45*; Greenwich visit *£1.25 surplus including Gift Aid*; Stewards reception *cost £82*

2022: AGM Dinner *surplus £53*; Landguard visit *loss £153*

Note 7 Gift Aid:

2003 figure is for 2022-23 only

2002 figure represents 2020-21 & 2021-22

Note 8 Online income:

2023: charges for Libertypay & Sumup machines represent 18% of online payments taken

2022: includes Libertypay credit £970.38 for overcharges Sep 2020-22; charges represent 23% of online payments

Treasurer's Report on the 2023 Accounts

Assets

The Deposit Fund continues in a healthy state but will be severely depleted to pay for the building works currently being undertaken. The Investment Fund has performed well this year and provides a reasonable income to the Deposit Fund. The Fixed Interest Fund (which has been renamed the Short Duration Bond Fund) has not recovered so well and the interest paid to the bank current account has fallen by 22%. This Fund will be used to make up any shortfalls in the building works costs.

In accordance with the Museum's Policy 12 (Financial Reserves) the minimum that must be maintained as a reserve for unforeseen circumstances at 1 January, 2024, is £27,863.

Income & Expenditure

Routine income has improved slightly this year with more donations from increased numbers of visitors, better sales of books and surpluses from the winter lectures and other events. No bequests were received and the two grants were for specific projects and not available to the general fund.

With regard to payments, purchase of 1,000 copies of the new edition of the Illustrated History of Southwold appears in these accounts. The favourable electricity tariff expired in July and the cost of electricity rose by 51% with the standing charges doubling which will be more obvious in next year's accounts. The largest item (£1,384) under repairs and maintenance is the 5-year electrical circuit testing which is expensive but necessary. The increase in the cost of the Museum Artifacts Collection was offset by the two grants.

Other sources of regular income are under consideration as is the increase in the number of social events. Although it is difficult to make a surplus on such events an increase in members' involvement must lead to a stronger financial attachment to the Museum.

Dividing the amount of donations by the number of adult visitors results in an average donation of £1.29 per adult. Whilst many give more than this, a significant number of visitors give nothing at all. This raises the recurring issue of charging an entrance fee. A 2023 report by the Association of Independent Museums consulted 450 UK-wide museums and found that 64% of the museums surveyed made an admission charge of some sort. At heart the Trustees would wish for admission to remain free, and there is also the difficulty of how to collect such a fee and its impact on Gift Aid, but the discussion of this option must continue. In any case we must increase the footfall.

Finally, although the accounts show a deficit of £276, this is offset by the net transfer of £1,000 to the Deposit Account resulting in a technical surplus of £724.

Andrew Wallington-Smith
Hon Treasurer
17 April 2024

SOUTHWOLD MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1159790

Accounts



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

Trustees Report

I start this year's report by reporting on the very sad loss of two of our Trustees, both of whom were very valued members of the Society.

Val Waters, one of our joint curators, died suddenly earlier this year. She always contributed with so much diligence and enthusiasm in the role, alongside her twin sister Jo Flunder, and will be very much missed by all those connected with the running of the Museum. Jo has very kindly agreed to continue as curator, assisted by Pam Hallworth, as she is sure that would have been Val's wish for her to do so.

David Holland, our previous Treasurer, had to resign due to ill health last year, and has sadly also died recently. He had worked hard to get our accounts and finances in order and his contribution is very much appreciated by all the Trustees. We are very fortunate that Andrew Wallington-Smith has been able to take over David's role and keep our finances under control.

The year saw a return to the full opening of the Museum post covid, and visitor numbers continued to hold up. Despite a reduction in the level of our Steward volunteers we have managed to keep the Museum open by operating with only one steward where our volunteers were comfortable to do so. As ever, we are always looking for more volunteer stewards to assist.

Details of our accounts are attached along with the Treasurer's comments. Due to several generous donations and continued cost controls, our financial position has strengthened, which has timed well in readiness for the expenditure on the failing Museum infrastructure that I reported on last year. We will also need to be particularly vigilant on our cost control this year with current inflationary pressures.

The building work will now be planned a little later than originally intended mainly due to technicalities regarding the nature of the work itself, but hopefully the work will be started once the Museum closes this Autumn

Lectures continued to be well supported and have benefited by the move of location to the Stella Peskett Hall. The programme of lectures is always varied and are usually focused on local history, however in the future this will be expanded to cover topics of a wider historical nature.

We were able to resume our visits last year and organised a visit to Landguard Fort, Felixstowe. We enjoyed a very interesting tour of the fort, followed by lunch in Felixstowe. We are planning to organise another visit this coming year and Helen Jarvis would welcome any suggestions for future visits. Please email her at helen.jarvis7@hotmail.co.uk with any specific requests.

This year our AGM and Annual Dinner is being held at The Harbour Inn on Wednesday, 3rd May (details attached) and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

Rhys Jarvis

10th April 2023



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

STATEMENT OF ASSETS 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Brought forward Balances at 1st January 2022		
Unrestricted Funds		
SM&HS Current Account	3,427	2,189
COIF Deposit Fund	8,666	10,567
COIF Investment Fund	23,210	20,316
COIF Fixed Interest Fund	7,680	8,217
Total Brought Forward	42,983	41,289
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	2,221	1,324
Monies Transferred from/to Bank to/from Deposit Fund	7,000	(2,500)
COIF Deposit Fund 2022 Interest	109	1
COIF Investment Fund 2022 Income	613	512
Unrealised COIF Investment Fund gains/losses	(2,698)	2,894
Unrealised COIF Fixed Interest Fund gains/losses	(970)	(537)
TOTAL FUNDS	49,258	42,983
Represented by Balances at 31st December 2022		
Unrestricted Funds		
SM&HS Current Account	5,789	3,427
COIF Deposit Fund	16,388	8,666
COIF Investment Fund	20,512	23,210
COIF Fixed Interest Fund	6,709	7,680
Total Brought Forward	49,398	42,983
Current Account 2022 Prepayments & Accruals (Note 1)	(140)	
TOTAL FUNDS	49,258	42,983

Note 1: 2022 Prepayments & Accruals

Add 2022 subs income prepaid in 2021	490
Less 2023 subs income prepaid in 2022	(70)
Add 2021 accrued debts paid in 2022	137
Less 2022 debts prepaid in 2021	(70)
Less 2022 debts paid in 2023	(627)
	(140)

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2022



RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2022

RECEIPTS Unrestricted Funds		2022	2021
Subscriptions	Note 2	2,345	2,085
Donations	Note 3	4,357	4,303
Grants	Note 4	5,000	500
Sales		1,002	1,193
Lecture Income	Note 5	934	303
Interest Received		195	221
Events Income	Note 6	1,483	0
Gift Aid	Note 7	2,748	0
Transfer from Deposit Fund		0	2,500
Total Receipts		18,064	11,105
PAYMENTS Unrestricted Funds			
Insurance		1,741	1,628
Utilities		2,141	2,316
Cost of online income	Note 8	(101)	1,063
Repairs & Maintenance		1,200	2,883
Printing & Clerical Services		932	672
Subscriptions to Allied Organisations		293	202
Cost of Museum Artefacts Collection		76	0
Purchase of Merchandise		145	504
Exhibitions		10	0
Cost of Lectures	Note 5	652	450
Cost of Events	Note 6	1,583	0
Local Rates		171	63
Transfer to Deposit Fund		7,000	0
Total Payments		15,843	9,781
Surplus/Deficit		2,221	1,324

Note 2 Subscriptions:

2022: 135 Ordinary memberships; 96 Life memberships; 1 Corporate membership

2021: 132 Ordinary memberships; 95 Life memberships; 1 Corporate membership

Note 3 Donations:

2022: All Visitors 3,423 = £1.27 per adult

2021: All Visitors 2,790 = £1.18 per adult

Note 4 Grants:

2022: bequest from Harold John Arthur TRUSSLER

2021: bequest from David LEE

Note 5 Lectures:

2022: 6 lectures *surplus £282*

2021: 3 lectures + 1 Zoom lecture *loss £147*

Note 6 Events:

2022: AGM Dinner *surplus £53*; Landguard visit *loss £153*

2021: No visits or AGM dinner

Note 7 Gift Aid: for financial year 2021-22 was £1,134 but this figure includes claims for 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22

Note 8 Online income:

2022: includes Libertypay credit £970.38 for overcharges Sep 2020-22; actual cost for 2022 was £546 + £12 Sumup fees deducted at source (ie 23% of online donations)

2021: includes overcharge of £431,28 by Libertypay, refunded in 2022; actual cost for 2021 was £632 + £6 Sumup fees deducted at source (ie 36% of online donations)



Treasurer's Report on the 2022 Accounts

Routine income for the Museum essentially derives from visitors' donations, membership subscriptions and Gift Aid and totals roughly £7,600 annually. Routine expenditure on the maintenance of the building and the membership totals about £7,700. Income is supplemented by occasional legacies and surpluses on lectures and events and sales of merchandise.

This year we have had a generous bequest, no bulk stock of merchandise to buy, a drive on overdue Gift Aid payments and a significant refund of overcharged expenses which has resulted in an effective surplus of £9,221 of which £7,000 was transferred to the Deposit Fund for forthcoming rainy days.

The knife edge of the routine income/expenditure is a source of concern. There is no suggestion that subscriptions should rise but we need more of them. Ten years ago the membership totalled 398 compared to 231 today. The Life Membership category is also of significance as 42% of the Society have no responsibility to contribute to the annual income, although some of them very generously do. Indeed, of the 96 Life Members, 74 have been members for more than 17 years [£250 is currently 17 years annual subscription] which shows great loyalty but a bad financial deal for the Museum. This is compounded by the fact that the Life subscriptions were not made a capital item and then released to income in annual proportions but have always been used at once.

Visitor numbers have been improving since the opening up after lockdown but still have some way to go to reach the 5-year average 2015-19 of 4,300. This means that the recruitment of, and contribution by, Stewards is ever more vital to keep the Museum both open and welcome to visitors.

The prospects for 2023 are not as rosy, however. We will not be so fortunate for income and we need to purchase a bulk stock of the very successful *Illustrated History of Southwold* (but which will, in due course, make a healthy surplus) and we have an expensive programme of remedial works on the building to carry out in Autumn 2023. When initially costed in 2021 these works came to £19,600 but this sum will have increased significantly in the last two years.

Clearly the work can be funded from reserves if necessary but the Trustees consider it prudent to retain at least a year's expenditure in reserve in case of significant loss of income in order to enable the Museum to continue to function in the immediate term. A number of sources of grants for the building work are being explored to improve this outlook for the Museum finances.

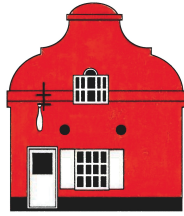
The bottom line, however, is that finance is satisfactory for the present and this historical jewel of the Town, in which the Trustees believe passionately, will continue to inform, educate and entertain for the public benefit.

Andrew Wallington-Smith
Hon Treasurer
28 March 2023

SOUTHWOLD MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1159790

Accounts



Southwold Museum & Historical Society **Trustees Report**

It will be no surprise to everyone that once again the year proved difficult as we exited from the Covid pandemic. The Museum opened later than usual in the season but in the latter half did return to normalcy.

On the plus side, the lecture programme was not impacted, for by the Autumn confidence in attending such events had returned. The lectures have been particularly good this year and we have had some record attendances. We changed the venue to the Stella Peskett Millennium Hall and this has proved popular. Details of next year's lectures will be given in our next mailing.

Details of our finances are attached along with the Treasurer's comments. Essentially, the organisation has held up financially during the year, supported by generous donations, control of costs and some escalation in the value of reserve investments. However, this picture will be short lived as costs and inflation impact in the coming months.

In addition, I have reported previously that it is necessary to carry out significant infrastructure repairs to the Museum building. The cost of this repair work (now planned for the closure period between Autumn and Spring) is sizeable and will deplete our reserves. To support this we have been seeking grant funding from various sources, and I am very pleased to report that The Southwold Trust has offered us £10,000 towards the project. We thank them greatly for their support.

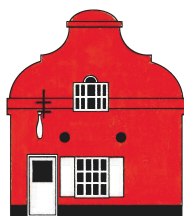
Another area of concern is our inability to maintain a full opening of the Museum during this season as we are seeing a decline in volunteers to act as stewards. On a number of days we have had to remain closed as no one was available and this will have an impact on our donations. If we cannot secure more help it throws an unacceptable burden on our curators who work tirelessly to keep the Museum open. We are really in need of some more of our members to come forward and help us in this task. Please contact our curators Val and Jo - (email them at curator@southwoldmuseum.org) if you feel you can assist. To those of you who have already done so, we offer our gratitude.

The Society is looking to broaden its horizon and make itself more visible. Consequently, we have been attending some events where we have set up a promotional stall. This has included the Lions Fete on the Green and will also feature at the Suffolk Show.

It is also our plan to re-establish visits to historical venues in the area. One trip will be set up for September for which details are attached.

Finally, we are returning to our practice of holding our dinner after the AGM which will take place in The Crown on Monday, June 20th so we look forward to seeing members at this event which has always been the highlight of our year.

Rhys Jarvis, 27th May 2022



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

STATEMENT OF ASSETS 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Brought forward balances at 1st January 2021		
Unrestricted Funds:		
SM&HS Current Account	2189	2750
COIF deposit account	10567	1976
COIF fixed interest account	8217	7953
COIF income shares	20316	19089
Total Brought forward	41289	31768
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	1324	1682
Change of value in investments	370	10224
Total Funds	42983	40310

Represented by balances at 31st December 2021

Unrestricted Funds:

SM&HS Current Account	3247	1210
COIF deposit account	8666	10567
COIF fixed interest account	7680	8217
COIF income shares	23210	20316

Total Funds

42983 40310

TREASURER'S INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR 2021 PLUS BUDGET COMPARISON

Receipts	Actual £2021	Budget £2021	Notes
Grants	3000	1500	Additional £1,000 drawdown from reserves than budgeted
Donations	4303	2200	Donations incl. £1000 bequest from William Whiting (dec)
Sales	1193	1050	Budget assumes steady state
Interest	221	256	Slight reduction due to drawdown of deposits
Subs	2085	1525	Encouraging after several poor years
Events Surplus/ (Loss)	147	0	Continuing negative trend
Gift Aid	0	700	Will not receive until next year
Total Receipts	10655	7231	Gift Aid needs to be addressed
Payments			
Insurance	1628	1600	Reduction negotiated but slightly above budget
Utilities	3379	2917	Energy costs escalating
R&M	2883	1690	Building consultancy of £1485 not budgeted
Printing/Clerical	672	737	Predictable expense items
Allied organisations	202	205	Steady, only paying on demand
Collection	0	0	Zero investment
Merchandise purchases	504	0	Map Marketing
Rates	63	82	Discounted until 2022/23
Total Payments	9331	7231	Building consultancy and energy cost overruns
Surplus/Deficit	1324	0	£2,500 drawdown avoided a deficit

Treasurer's Report on the 2021 Accounts

Notes 2021

Whilst a shortfall on an aspirational budget the outcome was assisted by earlier than envisaged opening and good summer trading activity both in-house and at selected events. All revenue aspirations bar Gift Aid, which should be settled in the current year, were achieved but escalating costs obviated this encouraging trend particularly building consultancy, merchandise purchases and the national trend in energy costs (which will escalate further).

Total funds held within the charity at 21.12.2021 were £42983 a year on year increase of £2673 (6.6%).

Our fixed interest account declined due to market forces depressing fixed interest securities by £527 (6.5%) whilst our income shares investments increased by £2894 (14.2%).

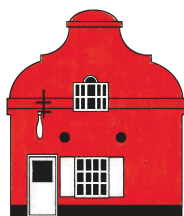
Our reserves currently preserve our solvency which must be carefully assessed before any major building expenditure is committed

David Holland
13th April 2022

SOUTHWOLD MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

England & Wales - Charity number 1159790

Accounts



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

STATEMENT OF ASSETS 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Brought forward balances at 1st January 2020		
Unrestricted Funds:		
SM&HS Current Account	2750	3710
COIF deposit account	1976	6136
COIF fixed interest account	7953	7712
COIF income shares	19089	16191
Total Brought forward	31768	33749
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	1682	4423
Change of value in investments	10224	2230
Total Funds	40310	31556

Represented by balances at 31st December 2020

Unrestricted Funds:		
SM&HS Current Account	1210	2538
COIF deposit account	10567	1976
COIF fixed interest account	8217	7953
COIF income shares	20316	19089
Total Funds	40310	31556

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2020

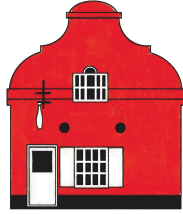
	2020	2019
	£	£
Receipts		
Unrestricted Funds:		
Grants	10000	375
General Donations	812	4006
Sales of Merchandise	360	1295
Interest Received	257	257
Subscriptions	2085	1942
Surplus on Events	307	336
Gift Aid	1342	1495
Total Receipts	15163	9706
Payments		
Unrestricted Funds:		
Insurance	1666	955
Utility Services	2480	2977
Repairs & Maintenance	1613	3922
Printing and Clerical Services	2242	1686
Subscriptions	205	115
Costs of Collection	614	3882
Purchase of Merchandise	25	264
Council Rates	-	328
Transfer to Reserves	8000	-
Total Payments	16845	14129
Surplus/Deficit	1682	4423

Treasurer's Report on the 2020 Accounts

Following 2019 the key issue was the accelerating decline in both donations and membership. Unfortunately, the international emergency of 2020/21 meant that improvement in these matters was effectively rendered impossible, although subscriptions held their own in 2020 but a fall of c. 30% seems likely in 2021. The above matters will return to the priority list once some normality is restored as recent results for the current year demonstrate. Ironically our reserves have increased by 28% during the pandemic due to the support received from East Suffolk Council with their grant of £10,000. £2000 of this money has been used to support our 2020 results, which nevertheless still demonstrated a deficit of **£1682**, whilst a further £2500 has already been drawn down in 2021. These funds have been used appropriately to support our charity following its fall in receipts during the pandemic. Additionally, it is clear from recent surveys, on which we have necessarily expended £1.7k, that the fabric of the museum will require significant remedial work over the coming years and cost estimates, appropriate time frames and impact of future business interruption are currently being reviewed. An ambitious budget plan, given current remaining uncertainties for 2021, designed to achieve a break even position has been agreed by Trustees but a longer term plan including further major fund raising will undoubtedly be required. An additional impact of the pandemic will be to Gift Aid which will fall significantly in 2021 primarily from donations which need to be reinvigorated. To this end we have introduced the facility for online donations given that it has become increasingly the pattern for individuals to undertake cashless transactions during the pandemic, a pattern which we believe is likely to continue.

Costs have been tightly controlled by our curators notwithstanding some long outstanding infrastructure items both in early 2020 and now into 2021 in relation to the aforementioned building works. On the Reserves front our equities improved by 6% with further improvement in value likely this year but the longer term is uncertain.

David Holland 27/05/2021



Southwold Museum & Historical Society

WINTER LECTURE SERIES 2021/22

All being well, we hope to welcome the following speakers to our forthcoming winter lecture series. The topics are varied and hopefully many of you will be to be attend. Non members are welcome too, so please do encourage your friends and family to come along as well.

As usual, these will be held at Southwold Methodist Hall, East Green, Southwold with doors opening at 2.00 p.m. for a 2.30 p.m. start. They are held on the first Tuesday of the month, except for January when it will be held on the second Tuesday, January 11th.

Cost for members £3 and guests £5.00

Tuesday 5th October 2021

Dave Steward - The History of Kentwell Hall, Long Melford, Suffolk

Dave Steward, a local historian, will give a talk about the fascinating history of this Tudor moated manor house and its many owners.

Tuesday 2nd November 2021 Charlie Haylock - The History of Spoken English

Charlie Haylock is one of Suffolk's leading entertainer and if you have not been to one of his talks you're in for a treat. He helped Ralph Fiennes perfect his Suffolk accent for his role as the archaeologist Basil Brown in the Netflix film "The Dig".

Charlie will show us how the seeds of spoken English were first set.

He will also show us how each invading force affected the English language, and the different sounds they brought - from the Angles and Saxons to the Vikings and Normans.

How Shakespeare was really spoken, the effect of the Renaissance, the religious input and how England, by being a trading nation creating an Empire, adopted words from across the globe into the English language.

Charlie will include a dialect tour of the British Isles and further afield, and demonstrate the different facial expressions of each dialect . . . and how a deaf person he knows can tell what dialect a person has . . . just by lip reading.

Very informative and highly entertaining.

Tuesday 7th December 2021 Alan Greening - "Lords and Lepers"

We welcome back Alan Greening, who in our last series of lectures gave us a very interesting and informative talk about the restoration of Southwold Church.

He is an architect specialising in historic buildings and is based in Southwold.

In 1995 Alan Greening was invited to become a "Commissioned Architect" consultant to English Heritage advising it on church, industrial and large-house projects. He has also been a tutor and lecturer in many locations in the UK.

This time Alan will give us a talk that relates to research that he undertook on two of his projects in Bungay.

Tuesday xx January 2022 Dr Richard Hoggett - “Viking-Age East Anglia”

We also welcome back Dr Richard Hoggett who has given us many excellent talks in the past. He is a freelance heritage consultant, lecturer and writer with our 20 years’ experience in the academic, commercial and local authority heritage sectors



From the middle decades of the 9th century until the Norman Conquest, East Anglia was an integral part of the Viking world which spanned the North Sea basin. Drawing on historical sources, archaeological sites, artefacts and place-names, this lecture explores the evidence for the Viking presence in East Anglia, from the initial campaign of the Great Heathen Army and the martyrdom of King Edmund, to the subsequent settlement and integration under the Danelaw, and the second wave of raids on the region’s towns which took place in the 11th century.

Tuesday 1st February 2022 Philip Birkhill - ‘The Battle of Sole Bay’

One of our members, Philip Birkhill, has been undertaking a lot of research on The Battle of Sole Bay and will be giving us an insight into this battle. This promises to be a most informative lecture.

Tuesday 1st March 2022 Lawrence Goldman - ‘Joseph Hooker and Charles Darwin: A Halesworth Story’

Finally, another welcome return visit, this time Lawrence Goldman. He is a historian and the former director of the Institute of Historical Research. He is a former editor of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography and is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Hooker was a British botanist and explorer in the 19th century. Many will know of the Hooker connection to Halesworth but he will add some scientific history to that basis.

He'll start his lecture in Halesworth but voyage with the Beagle and visit Van Diemen's Land before ending up at Downe House in Kent

Helen Jarvis
Secretary
Southwold Museum and Historical Society